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On the go with CHM 125, ECON 210, PHYS 218, and BIOL 205: Coursecasting at a large research university

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On the go with CHM 125, ECON 210, PHYS 218, and BIOL 205: Coursecasting at a Large Research University

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Today's Talk...

- Who we are
- Why do we want to do this
- What it is
- How we do it
- How it looks
- What are some early outcomes



Description of Purdue University

- ❑ Purdue is a public, doctoral-granting research university and Indiana's land-grant university.
- ❑ Fall 2005 enrollment: 38,712 students
- ❑ Chemistry Department
 - 48 faculty members
 - 250 undergraduate students
 - 300 graduate students
 - 90 support personnel



Why Switch to Podcasting?

- 35 years of audio cassette recording of courses
 - Bulk handling and erasing of 2500 cassettes a semester
- Library was depository for these cassettes
 - Podcasting relieves burden on library
- We see those white ear buds “everywhere”

Defining Podcasting

- Podcasting, a portmanteau of Apple's "iPod" and "broadcasting", is a method of publishing files to the Internet, allowing users to subscribe to a feed and receive new files automatically by subscription, usually at no cost.
- en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Podcasting (3/16/06)

Another Definition

- A form of audio blogging created by Adam Curry, a former MTV Host, and Dave Winer, the founder of Userland Software. Its name comes from the targeting of audio posts to Apple's iPod audio player, although podcasts can be listened to on competing players and on computers.
- www.fzelders.nl/weblog/ (3/16/06)

Other Uses

- ❑ Classes = learncasting, podagogy
- ❑ Videos = vodcasting
- ❑ On mobile phones = mobilecasting
- ❑ On Palm devices = Palmcasting
- ❑ Sermons = Godcasting
 - Taken from additional Wikipedia entries



Pros to Podcasting/Coursecasting

- ❑ Self-evaluation for the instructor
- ❑ Student review of lecture materials
- ❑ Allows for supplemental material
- ❑ Utilization of “trendy” technology
- ❑ Convenience
- ❑ Assists auditory and ESL learners

Cons to Podcasting/Coursecasting

- ❑ Do you change the way you teach?
- ❑ How effective without video?
 - How effective at all?
- ❑ Change in level of attendance?
- ❑ Intellectual Property concerns
- ❑ Privacy issues
- ❑ Course auditing



Implementation at Purdue



University-Wide Involvement

□ Fall 2005

- 73 classes, 6 restricted (10 in chemistry)
- 37 departments

□ Spring 2006

- 61 classes, 11 restricted (7 in chemistry)
- 32 departments



Number of capable classrooms

- 55 capable classrooms in 27 buildings

- 17 other capable rooms
 - Conference rooms
 - Large rooms in the Student Union

Faculty Request Form

(including “disclaimer/authorization”)

Required Information:

Person Requesting Service:



Course Instructor Name:



Course Instructor e-mail:



Course Instructor Department:

Course Instructor Office:



Course Instructor Phone:



Course ID (i.e. "COM114"):



Days Course Meets:

☐ Monday ☐ Tuesday ☐ Wednesday ☐ Thursday ☐ Friday



Time Course Meets:

FROM:



TO:



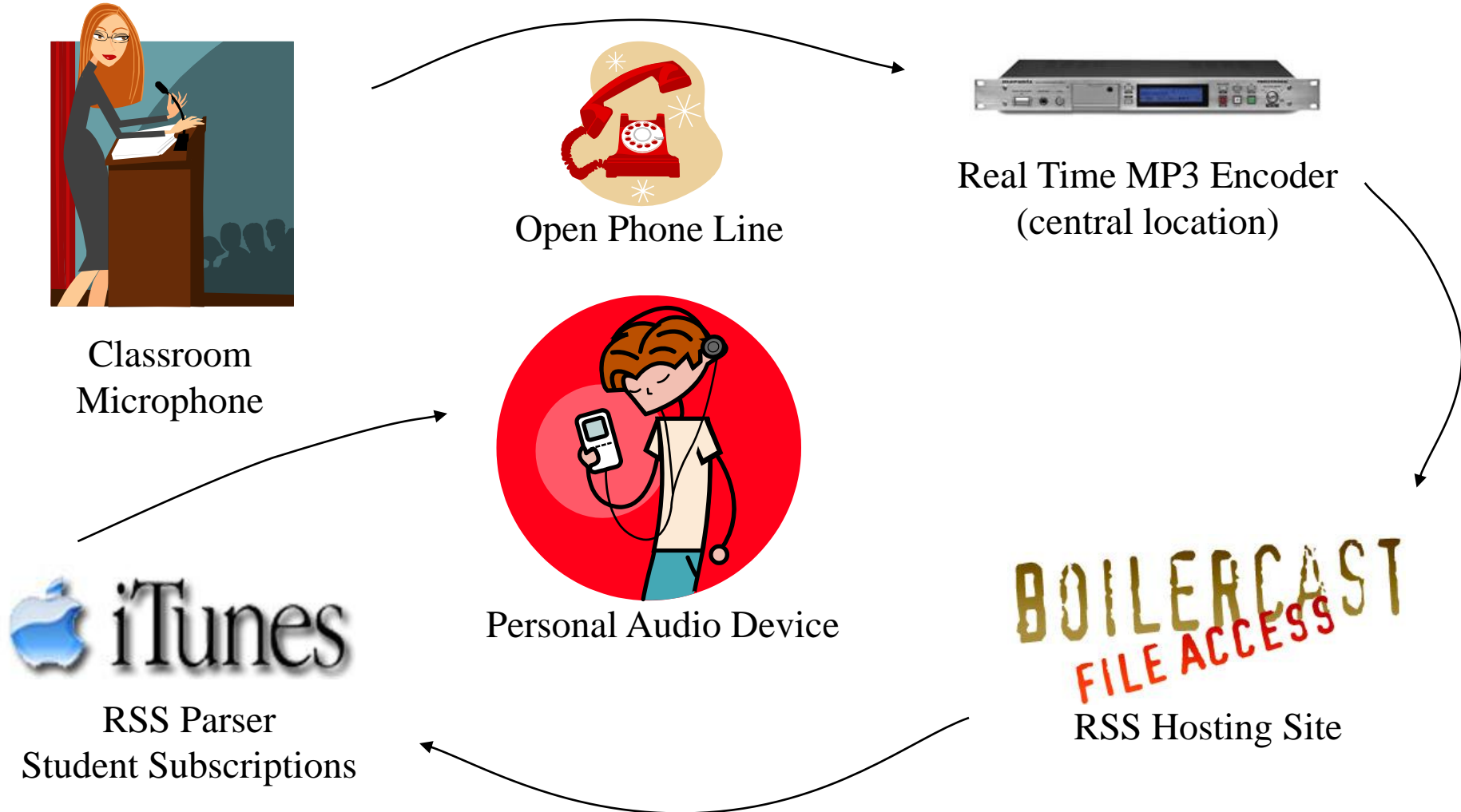
Building Scheduled for Course:



Room Scheduled for Course:



Technical: How it is done





Technical: Specs of files

- MP3 files
 - ~1 MB per minute
 - 50 minute average lectures
 - 64 kbps, 44 kHz, mono
 - Metadata with course info



Technical: How to access

- ❑ Download – MP3
 - Myriad of ways to play/listen
- ❑ Streaming – MP3
 - Streams through Windows Media Player or RealNetworks RealPlayer
- ❑ RSS
 - Can use with news aggregators (like Bloglines) or with Apple's iTunes.



Security Concerns

- Intellectual Property
 - World accessible
 - No file sharing protection

- Password Protection
 - Faculty chooses own username and password
 - Faculty distributes information to students

Technical: Costs

- Classroom Microphones
 - \$250-\$1000
- Real Time MP3 Encoder
 - \$800-\$1000 per encoder
- Server
 - Storage → ~\$10 per course
 - Software for streaming → \$1000-\$4000
- Staff Time
 - 1 FTE

All costs are estimates

What does it look like?

<http://boilercast.itap.purdue.edu:1013/Boilercast/>

What is BoilerCast?





Use Apple iTunes
with BoilerCast
How-To Guide

BOILERCAST
FILE ACCESS

Online Boilercast
Request Form
(Faculty Only)

List of BoilerCast
Capable Rooms

SPRING 2006 Course List:

AD384		RSS BoilerCast
AD395		RSS BoilerCast
AD602		RSS BoilerCast
AGRY350		RSS BoilerCast
ANTH205		RSS BoilerCast
AT479		RSS BoilerCast
AT999		RSS BoilerCast
BIOL110		RSS BoilerCast
BIOL111		RSS BoilerCast
BIOL206		RSS BoilerCast
BTNY210		RSS BoilerCast
Books and Coffee		RSS BoilerCast

What does an individual class look like?



CHM124

Spring 2006

Instructor: David McMillin

Meets Every Monday, Friday.

  XML Daily RSS Feed for CHM124

Record Date	MP3 Download Link	Windows Streaming Link	Real Networks Streaming Link
Monday March 6, 2006	Download File	Windows Media Stream	Real Player Stream
Friday March 3, 2006	Download File	Windows Media Stream	Real Player Stream
Monday February 27, 2006	Download File	Windows Media Stream	Real Player Stream
Friday February 24, 2006	Download File	Windows Media Stream	Real Player Stream
Monday February 20, 2006	Download File	Windows Media Stream	Real Player Stream
Friday February 17, 2006	Download File	Windows Media Stream	Real Player Stream
Monday February 13, 2006	Download File	Windows Media Stream	Real Player Stream
Friday February 10, 2006	Download File	Windows Media Stream	Real Player Stream
Monday February 6, 2006	Download File	Windows Media Stream	Real Player Stream



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RSS Feed through Bloglines

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related feeds

mark all new

unsubscribe

edit subscription

CHM124 BoilerCast!

Classroom Audio Recordings for :CHM124 Spring 2006 Section 0101

16 Items | [Sort Oldest First](#) | Updated: Tue, Mar 7 2006 3:02 PM

[Mon Mar 6, 2006CHM124](#)

By Purdue University

CHM124 Spring 2006 Recorded: Mon Mar 6, 2006

[Enclosure](#)

Posted on: Tue, Mar 7 2006 3:02 PM | [Email This](#) | [Clip/Blog This](#)

Keep New: ☐

[Fri Mar 3, 2006CHM124](#)

By Purdue University

CHM124 Spring 2006 Recorded: Fri Mar 3, 2006

[Enclosure](#)

Posted on: Tue, Mar 7 2006 3:02 PM | [Email This](#) | [Clip/Blog This](#)

Keep New: ☐

[Mon Feb 27, 2006CHM124](#)

By Purdue University

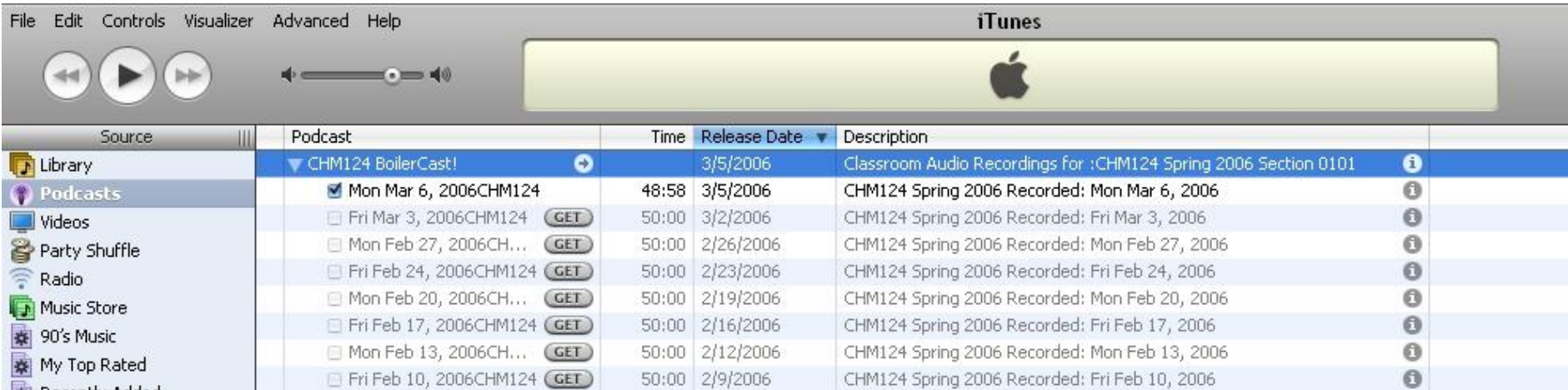
CHM124 Spring 2006 Recorded: Mon Feb 27, 2006

[Enclosure](#)

Posted on: Tue, Mar 7 2006 3:02 PM | [Email This](#) | [Clip/Blog This](#)

Keep New: ☐

RSS Feed / Podcast in iTunes





Preliminary Usage Stats

- ❑ Service available Aug. 22, 2005
- ❑ 35 initial courses
- ❑ 1080 downloads within the first week of classes
- ❑ ~40,000 downloads as of 10/17/05



Other Uses on Campus

- Undergraduate Library Tour
 - 3 iPods, 227 uses since August
 - 99% of usage is because of assignments
- The Exponent (student newspaper)
- Books and Coffee (book series)
- Academic Interviewing, Fellowship Training, and Proposal Writing informational sessions



Faculty/Student Reactions

- ❑ Sometimes students and/or faculty do not know where the podcasts are
- ❑ Faculty like it because it is painless and lectures are posted quickly
- ❑ Students like it for review and missed classes
- ❑ Both appreciate the various formats
- ❑ Both want video and/or PowerPoint



Lessons Learned

- ❑ Scalability
- ❑ Faculty Education
 - Have we made it too easy?
- ❑ Intellectual Property
- ❑ Audio Quality



Future Directions

- ❑ Scale UP!
- ❑ Authentication
- ❑ Faculty Education
- ❑ Video...PowerPoint...PDFs...???

Additional Resources

- ❑ Apple iPod in the Classroom
<http://www.apple.com/education/ipod/>
- ❑ Pod Pedagogy Blog
http://www.bio.purdue.edu/mt/feeds/pod_pedagogy/
- ❑ Podcasting 101
<http://podcasting101.pbwiki.com/>
- ❑ Podcasting @ Univ. Wisconsin – Madison
<http://engage.doit.wisc.edu/podcasting/index.html>